GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5122
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2005
OPERATION OF OLD AEROPLANES HELICOPTERS
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that most of the aeroplanes and helicopters of the airline companies in operation are 15-25 years old;

(b) if so, whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has laid down any rules for operation of such old aged aeroplanes and helicopters;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is aware that these rules are not being followed scruplously by the airline companies; and

(e) if so, the action taken against the companies for violating the rules?

Answer

- MINISTER OF STATE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a), (b) and (c):- Of the total of 184 aircrafts operated by scheduled operator permit holders only 48 aircraft are more than 15 years old. Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued necessary `Civil Aviation Requirements` Section 2, Series F-Part -X- Airworthiness of ageing aircraft and `Airworthiness Advisory` circular No. 4 of 2000 - Maintenane of Ageing aircraft for proper maintenance and operation of aircrafts which are more than 20 years old.

(d):- The DGCA ensures, on a continuous basis, strict compliance of safety norms by all air operators, including private operators by way of safety audits. Besides, spot checks on maintenance activities are also carried out by the DGCA. DGCA also keeps updating the Civil Aviation Requirements/Circulars to strengthen aviation safety aspect.

(e) Does not arise.